

—Earl Warren briskly read the court's unanimous decision, which, he announced, will be followed in due course with a full written opinion: "In view of the imminent commencement of the new school year at the Central High School of Little Rock," the court deemed it important to make a prompt announcement of its decision. "It is accordingly ordered that the judgment of the Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, dated August 18, 1958 . . . be affirmed"; i.e., the school board's plea for more time was denied.

Make It Orderly. With utter finality, the Supreme Court had spoken to the bridge burners. Now it remained for law-enforcement agencies to build a new bridge. Anticipating the court's decision, Attorney General Rogers had written two remarkable letters to Little Rock. One advised the school board president that the Justice Department was ready to help him get federal injunctions against anyone who violated federal court orders. The other reminded City Manager Dean Daulley that state authorities were primarily responsible for law and order. But the U.S. marshal and more than 100 deputy marshals would be on hand to cooperate.

Two and one-half hours after the Supreme Court's ruling, President Eisenhower added prestigious emphasis to the Federal Government's earnest plans for orderly compliance with the law. Said the President: "I appeal to the sense of civic responsibility that animates the vast majority of our citizenry to avoid defiance of the court's orders . . . All of us know that if an individual, a community or a state is going continuously and successfully to defy the rulings of the courts, then anarchy results . . . I hope that all of us may live up to our traditional and proud boast that ours is a government of laws. Let us keep it that way."

ARKANSAS

Shutdown in Little Rock

Orval Faubus, Governor of Arkansas, was seated at the head of a long table in the conference room next to his office. He was presiding at a routine public meeting of state-election commissioners. A beefy, cigar-chewing reporter sidled up to the Governor, whispered in his ear the news of the Supreme Court's decision. Faubus listened impassively, nodded and said nothing. Then he leaned toward State Attorney General Bruce Bennett, sitting at his side, and the two whispered, gestured, broke out laughing.

By late afternoon Faubus was ready to announce his plans. At 4:25 an aide left the Governor's office, filed with the secretary of state a sheaf of anti-integration laws enacted by the legislature at the Governor's behest; Orval Faubus had been keeping them on his desk for two weeks. Now, freshly signed, they had the power of law. Then he called in the press and read his announcement in a flat, tense voice: "Acting under the powers and responsibilities imposed upon me by these laws, I have ordered closed the senior high schools of Little Rock, in order to avoid the impending violence and disorder

which would occur, and to preserve the peace of the community." Under another law Faubus proclaimed a school-district referendum for Oct. 7 on whether the schools should be integrated and reopened. Of the three white high schools in Little Rock, only Central has attempted integration.

Faubus knew that he was bound to reap the growing outrage of parents and students who wanted their schools open—integrated or no. He knew too that his act defied a federal court order prohibiting him from obstructing Central High School's integration progress. Suddenly, out of nowhere, came an admitted Little Rock segregationist named Gertie Garrett to file suit against the Governor in Chan-



Associated Press

ANGIE EVANS

"Someone had to speak up."

cery Court. Ostensible purpose: to test the constitutionality of the school-closing law in state courts. Though the Governor's office denied any complicity, it seemed likely that the suit was designed to 1) head off the growing parent-student clamor, and 2) put a test case to a state court, thus (hopefully) precluding immediate federal action against the same law.

At week's end the Little Rock city council issued a statement: "If and when Central High School is integrated, the responsibility is clearly that of the Federal Government. However [the municipal government] will protect life and property." And while more than 100 deputies came and went from U.S. Marshal Beal Kidd's office, sign painters were busy preparing ominous notices: WARNING—DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHALS WEARING SPECIAL ARM BANDS AND OTHER IDENTIFICATION ARE ON OFFICIAL DUTY IN THIS VICINITY. THEY ARE ASSISTING IN THE EXECUTION OF ORDERS OF THE FEDERAL COURT. ANY PERSON INTERFERING WITH OR OBSTRUCTING SAID DEPUTY MARSHALS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES IS LIABLE TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION UNDER FEDERAL LAW.

Courage in Van Buren

Egged on by the local police chief, the leading toughs of the Van Buren, Ark. High School staged a 45-man school "strike" and managed to scare away the 13 Negro youngsters trying to return to school at term's beginning. Last week the Van Buren school board, wavering before pressure to revise the integration plan that worked last year, announced a public hearing for the anti-integration White Citizens' Council. Up before the meeting that night, to the general astonishment, stood Jessie Angeline Evans, 15, grocer's daughter, straight A student and one of the rare juniors to be elected president of the high school student council. Angie's message: in the three hours before the meeting she and her friends polled 160 of the school's 635 students on the integration question in its bluntest form ("Should Negro students attend Van Buren High School?"). Their tally: 45 opposed, 30 undecided, 85 in favor.

Speaking for "the majority of the school," the pretty Ozark Joan of Arc added: "We think it is only fair that the Negroes be permitted to attend this high school . . . Have you thought what you make those Negro children feel like, running them out of school?"

After the stunned silence Angie stood off angry questioners; the meeting broke up without taking any action. The duck-tailed haircut set soon drifted back to classes, and the N.A.A.C.P. pressed suit to force the school board to carry out the provisions of its integration plan. But Angie Evans was the center of most attention. Why did she do it? "Someone had to speak up," said Methodist Angie. "I just don't think segregation is a Christian thing."

VIRGINIA

"The Gravest Crisis"

(See Cover)

Above all things, I hope the education of the common people will be attended to; convinced that on their good senses we may rely with the most security for the preservation of a due degree of liberty.

—Thomas Jefferson
to James Madison (1787)

Behind the massive walnut desk in Richmond's proud, Ionic-fronted Capitol, designed by Thomas Jefferson in 1785, sat florid, heavy-shouldered J. (for James) Lindsay Almond Jr., 66th Governor of Virginia in the line of Jefferson, Patrick Henry, James Monroe, John Tyler and Harry Flood Byrd. He had, he admitted, been under "continuous pressure." Just the night before, he and his wife had been awakened several times by telephone calls: "She'd jump up so I could get some sleep, and I jumped up so she could get some rest. Usually, it meant that both of us jumped up at the same time." But for a man ready to preside over the dissolution of the public school system first proposed by Thomas Jefferson in 1779, Lindsay Almond was remarkably relaxed. "I feel very well, thank you," said he. "But